Disclaimer: the views expressed herein are the author’s and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the U.S. Department of Energy or the U.S. Government.
The Need For Open Content

- EERE wants an online workforce training platform to be an open source/content collaborative effort between Federal Agencies, Private Industry, and Non-Profits
- Reuse of the training platform by other federal agencies, organizations and individuals (open source)
- Reuse of the content by other federal agencies, organizations and individuals (open content)
- Create “marketplace” for training and education content
- EERE wanted to in-license open content and have any works developed using DOE funds made available through an open content license scheme
We’re looking at CC BY: a copyright license that grants permission to the public to reproduce, distribute perform, display, or adapt the licensed works for any purpose so long as the user gives attribution to the author or as otherwise directed by the copyright holder.

Hypothetical: If CC BY is a requirement of DOE funded grant or contract, then a member of the public would be permitted to incorporate the DOE funded work into an instructional video so long as the video credits the author of the work.
CC licenses encourage respect for copyright and owners rights

CC licenses are non-exclusive

Requiring release under CC BY maximizes the public benefit of funding dollars, and ensures the creator retains copyright and the option to offer the work under other terms that benefit the particular business model or mission
• CC BY gives individuals, non-profits and businesses permission to use and build upon material created with public funds, so long as the creator is credited

• Materials can be reused and value-added to by any members of the public including entrepreneurs, start-ups, and traditional businesses

• CC BY has been used in OpenCourseWare at major universities, K-12 and community college initiatives in the States of Virginia and Washington, education businesses, and non-profit foundations included Hewlett and Gates

• White House too!
CC licenses have been adopted by institutions and governmental bodies for educational initiatives around the world, and similarly for public sector information, scientific publishing, works of cultural heritage institutions (national museums and libraries).

CC licenses have been used as the legal standard for collaborations on the web, and used in businesses and communities from Microsoft to Wikipedia.

CC licenses embody established technical standards that allow the public to find openly licensed works using any search engine available.
In order to used dependably and reliably by the interested public that wishes to innovate, these publicly funded works should be clearly licensed and marked to modify the default copyright rules (i.e. “all rights reserved”)

CC BY would allow publicly funded works to be leveraged and used alongside other similarly open content licensed works and in concert with existing educational training initiatives

This allows the “mash-up” or synthesis of different content efficiently and without requiring onerous permission requests or licenses.
Next Step: CC BY In Grants To Non-Profits

- Under this training program, DOE has requested in-licensing third party content under a Creative Commons license.
- DOE may need to request a deviation of the standard language in 10 CFR 600.136 in grants to require works created with DOE support to be licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution License.
- Government may continue to reserve a paid-up non-exclusive and irrevocable right to reproduce, publish or otherwise use the work for Federal purposes and authorize others to do so.
THANK YOU!

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