



EVIDENCE DECK · 2026 · CC0

FREE TO BUILD.

A one-document briefing for press, policy, and funders.

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#FREETOBUILD



Cities were a compromise with scarcity.

For the first time in human history, a single person on a modest budget can build a home, power it, feed a family, stay connected, and live far from any city — comfortably, legally, and indefinitely.

The only remaining obstacle between a human being and a self-built, self-owned, off-grid home is the legal fiction that they need someone's permission. That is the single lever this movement pulls.

~90%

fall in solar PV price
per watt,
2014–2024

~50%

fall in LFP battery
cost, 2021–2024

Cheap/mo

LEO satellite
internet, anywhere
on the continent

Low 5-figures

material cost for a
warm, 40 m² timber
cabin



Four years to object. One year to confirm.

The movement's position on how long a neglectful owner retains the right to reclaim abandoned land is, by global historical standards, lenient.

UP TO YEAR 4

the original owner may at any time prove title and reclaim the land, with compensation for documented improvements as the law provides.

YEARS 4 TO 5

any peaceful, visible, improving occupant may file a public claim. It can be challenged. It must remain undefeated for one year.

AFTER YEAR 5

if the owner has not acted, the land belongs to the person who lives on it, builds it, and does not leave.



Where you can claim land today.

Minimum adverse-possession / positive-prescription period, typical good-faith conditions.

JURISDICTION	MIN. YEARS	NOTES
USA — Montana	5 yrs	Shortest standard period in the Western world. Property-tax condition.
Scotland	10 yrs	Positive prescription. Fastest in Europe.
Finland	10 yrs	Good faith + registered title under the Land Code.
France	10 yrs	Usucapion abrégée with juste titre and good faith.
Spain	10 yrs	Immovable property, good-faith + title. 30 yrs otherwise.
England & Wales	10–12	Registered vs unregistered land, LRA 2002.
Ireland	12 yrs	Statute of Limitations; works on both registered and unregistered land.
Moldova · Georgia · Ukraine	15 yrs	Post-Soviet civil codes; abundant rural land.
Albania · Serbia	10–20	10 yrs good faith, 20 yrs extraordinary.
Norway · Sweden	20 yrs	Hevd / hävd. Strong cultural legitimacy.
Italy · Iceland	20 yrs	Usucapione / hefð.
Germany	30 yrs	Ersitzung. Strongly disfavored for land in practice.



Allodial title: Land owned outright.

Most property in the world today is held under some form of feudal derivation — even 'freehold' is technically held of the Crown or the state. Allodial title is the older and purer form: land owned absolutely, with no superior lord.

Orkney & Shetland (Scotland)

Udal Law, inherited from Norway. The purest surviving allodial system in Europe.

Norway

Odelsrett, the ancient right of kin to reclaim ancestral farmland.

Faroe Islands

Retains óðal traditions close to Orkney's.

Andorra

Strong tradition of absolute private ownership.

Scotland

The Abolition of Feudal Tenure etc. Act 2000 abolished feudal superiority; freehold is now near-allodial.

USA

Nevada and Texas — Limited statutory provisions for purchasing allodial status.



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