

Ultimatum bursts Crookwell dream

A LETTER from a wind farm developer giving them three months to decide whether to sell their 16-hectare "paradise" to the company has devastated Crookwell couple, Gareth and Shondelle Price-Jones (pictured above).

If they don't sell they will have to put up with giant wind turbines as close as 850 metres to their house - part of Epuron's 73turbine Gullen Range wind farm.

The couple, who have till June 1 to decide. are still agonising over the decision.

Mr Price-Jones said they had bought the block excised from the property of his father, Humphrey Price-Jones. in 2005 with the aim of establishing their "dream home".

moved in in 2008, installed a water feature, planted more than 500 trees and established gardens which are now flourishing.

Epuron is acting within the terms of a Land and **Environment Court decision** last year which said the

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- Shondelle Price-Jones, Crookwell

company must either buy properties deemed to be adversely affected by the presence of turbines, or reduce the number of turbines.

Twelve other landholders on properties adjacent to the

have also received the same ultimatum.

"To have a letter ... stating we have three months to decide whether to sell up or put up with living under these turbines so close to our back door was devastating to both of us," Mrs Price-Jones

said in a letter to The

"How can you put a price on happiness?"

The couple are expecting their first child in about three months and the letter was "the last thing we need", her husband, Gareth said.

He said his father had sold them the land "very cheaply" and if Epuron based its price offer on that they (the couple) would lose heavily.

"You can't go anywhere in Crookwell to get a similar property for that sort of



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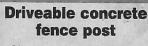
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