A. Energy/Transportation Conduits (ETC)

1. Definition. An Energy/Transportation Conduit line is an energy, commodity or transportation conduit that traverses through the town of Wilton that does not directly provide the items being conducted through the town to any local establishment. The rules in this section would also be applied to any conduit, above or below ground, through the town of Wilton such as a pipeline, a railroad, toll road, or any other pass through utility. The Site Plan Review Process is to be followed with adherence to requirements listed below.

2. Site Dimensional Requirements.
   a. The right of way for an ETC is to be large enough such that any towers placed in the right of way will be set back the maximum height plus ten feet, from any property line.
   b. The right of way for an ETC must be adequate to allow a vegetated buffer zone that is 25 ft wide on either side and include a 20 ft access road for maintenance or emergency vehicles.

3. Prohibited Locations
   a. An ETC will not be allowed in Varnum Pond Watershed Overlay district or in the Limited Residential and Recreational zones.
   b. An ETC will not be placed so as to result in adverse impact on an important local scenic view, as defined by the most recent Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Wilton.
   c. There will be a 250 ft buffer around all wetlands, deer wintering grounds, significant vernal pools, and significant bird habitats. The buffer is to remain undisturbed during construction and as long as the permit is in effect.

4. Public Health and Safety
   a. Any specialized equipment or training that would be required by the Fire Department will be paid by the ETC owner or agent.
   b. Access to the ETC must be maintained and located as directed by the Fire Department to provide fire protection.
   c. All associated electrical and control equipment shall be labeled and secured to prevent unauthorized access.
   d. All tower ladders or step bolts shall be at least 15 feet above ground so as to prevent public access.
   e. All electrical or control wiring to or from the ETC shall be installed underground. Fiber optic cable would be exempt from this requirement.
   f. The ETC shall not result in noise levels that are 30 dBA above ambient non-operating noise levels as measured at the nearest property line.
Put this section of the ordinance after 5.26, so this would be 5.27.

  g. The ETC shall be located and operated in such a way that it will not disrupt the transmission or reception of electromagnetic signals to abutting properties.
  h. The ETC shall not be lighted unless required by the FAA. Temporary lighting for maintenance or operation is allowed.
  i. The ETC owner or their designated agent shall have a 24 hour, 7 day a week emergency contact on file with Franklin County Emergency Management. Any disruption or emergency with the ETC is to be reported as soon as possible to Franklin County Emergency Dispatch office.
  j. The preferred control of vegetation is by hand cutting. Any use of herbicides or pesticides must be approved by the Planning Board prior to application and no aerial application is allowed.

5. Abandonment/Decommissioning
   a. The ETC owner or their agent will deposit in escrow with the Town an amount of funds sufficient to cover the costs of decommissioning the ETC. The amount of the funds to be based on installation cost, such as 50% of installation cost.
   b. An ETC that has not been in use for 12 months, or has fallen into disrepair will be deemed abandoned, and shall be decommissioned by the owner or their agent within 120 days of receipt of notice from the Town to decommission.
   c. The Planning Board will require the ETC owner or their agent to deposit in escrow with the Town an amount of money sufficient to cover the costs for any professional review of the site plan documents which the Planning Board may feel is reasonably necessary to protect the general welfare of the Town. Refer to Section 6.3.C of this ordinance.