

INTENT OF BUILDING REGULATIONS

The Objectives of Section C of the Building Code of Australia are basically to minimise risk to a building and occupants by minimising the hazard and controlling the spread of fire. Specification C1.1 of the Building Code of Australia provides fire criteria for rooflights in certain situations in Clause 3.6. This Clause does not require any skylight to be non-combustible.

GLAZING PANELS

A variety of glazing panels may typically be fitted to this skylight to satisfy many architectural goals however a limited range will satisfy a requirement for non-combustible materials. These include wired, tempered, hardened and toughened glass. Because of the specimen configuration required by AS 1530.1 laminated glass, which consists of two sheets of glass laminated by a thin combustible film of adhesive etc..., would most likely be classified as combustible under the test but may also, depending on the thickness of the film, deemed non-combustible by clause C1.12(f) of the BCA. In either case in this application it would not contribute to the spread of fire

Most synthetic (plastic) glazing panels would be combustible and may contribute to fire spread.

CONCLUSION/OPINION

It is the opinion of this Division that the skylight as described above, may be considered to be non-combustible in terms of the Building Code of Australia in order to satisfy the intent of this regulations.

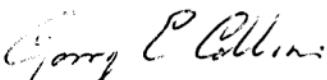
This opinion only applies when the skylight is made of sheet steel with a wired, hardened, toughened, tempered glazing panel or laminated glass and fitted with a polyethylene foam strip gasket of not more than 25 mm width on each side of the glazing panel.

The quantity of combustible material that forms part of the construction is small and is sandwiched in intimate contact with non-combustible materials of significant thermal mass. It is thus unlikely to contribute to the spread of fire.

TERM OF VALIDITY

This assessment report will lapse on 31 May 2015. Should you wish us to re-examine this assessment with a view to the possible extension of its term of validity, would you please apply to us three to four months before the date of expiry. This Division reserves the right at any time to amend or withdraw this report in the light of new knowledge.

Yours faithfully



Garry E Collins
Manager, Fire Testing and Assessments
17 May 2010