Skylights Used as Emergency Escape and Rescue Openings

**Code:** 2012 Residential  
**Section:** R310  
**Date:** August 5, 2014

**Question:**
Can skylights that meet the requirements of Section R310 be used as emergency escape and rescue openings?

**Answer:**
Yes. The minimum opening height, width, and area must be available with the skylight in the open position (see sketch below).

**EXAMPLE of OPENING DIMENSIONING:**
22" clear height requires a 37 ½” clear width to provide the required minimum 5.7 sf of clear opening

**Keywords:**
Roof, means of egress, bedroom, sleeping room, emergency escape and rescue window, egress window