
MetLife isn't a SIFI, federal judge rules

By Editorial Staff *Thu, Mar 31, 2016*

Judge Rosemary Collyer's opinion was sealed, but parts may be made public next month.

U.S. District Judge Rosemary Collyer on Wednesday rescinded, or struck down, the 2014 designation made by Financial Stability Oversight Council that major insurer MetLife Inc. is a Systemically Important Financial Institution (SIFI), or “too big to fail.”

MetLife had argued in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia that the FSOC used a “secretive and flawed” process when it determined that a collapse of the insurer could hurt the U.S. financial system just as much as failure of a major bank such as Citigroup.

In a press release, MetLife CEO Steve Kandarian said: “Today’s ruling validates MetLife’s decision to seek judicial review of our SIFI designation. From the beginning, MetLife has said that its business model does not pose a threat to the financial stability of the United States. This decision is a win for MetLife’s customers, employees and shareholders.”

Collyer’s opinion is currently sealed, but parts may be made public next month, according to the order.

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