



United States Department of State

*Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Passport Services*

Washington, D.C. 20520

July 28, 2017

Naomi Rao, Administrator
Office of Management and Budget
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
725 17th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Ms. Rao:

Pursuant to 5 CFR § 1320.13, the Department of State requests OMB emergency approval to begin a new collection of information for certain U.S. nationals who wish to travel to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). The reasons for the request are in the attached Justification for Emergency Review.

The Secretary has the authority, under 22 U.S.C. § 211a, Executive Order 11295, and 22 C.F.R. 51.63 to invalidate all U.S. passports for travel to a country if he determines that any of three conditions exist: the country is at war with the United States; armed hostilities are in progress in the country; or there is imminent danger to the public health or physical safety of U.S. travelers in the country. The Secretary of State intends to impose such a restriction with respect to travel to the DPRK, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. § 211a, Executive Order 11295, and 22 CFR §§ 51.63 and 51.64, upon determining that there is imminent danger to the public health or physical safety of U.S. travelers in the DPRK.

The Department has not yet published a determination in the *Federal Register*, but such publication is imminent. The passport restriction, which will be effective thirty days after publication, will invalidate all U.S. passports for travel in, through, or to the DPRK. Once the passport restriction is in effect, a U.S. national may only use a U.S. passport to travel to the DPRK if it has been specially validated, consistent with 22 C.F.R. § 51.64. An individual wishing to travel to the DPRK will need to submit a request for a U.S. passport containing a special validation to the Department and demonstrate that issuance of the special validation is in the national interest of the United States.

The applicant will, at a minimum, need to provide a written request along with a copy of a valid government issued photo identification with date of birth, current contact information, and must state the reason for the travel, including the specific category into which the applicant feels his or her trip is in the national interest under 22 C.F.R. § 51.64; and any documentation that may support the basis for his or her request. If approved, the applicant may submit a DS-82 passport application for a second passport (or DS-11, if applicable). Any passport issued will be valid for one year and permit one round trip to the DPRK.

This will be a new information collection, but it will augment the following approved information collections: OMB Control Number 1405-0004 (Application for a U.S. Passport) and OMB Control Number 1405-0020 (U.S. Passport Renewal Application for Eligible Individuals).

Sincerely,



Brenda S. Sprague
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Passport Services
Bureau of Consular Affairs