Soco’s response to the film (originally published by the BBC in a video report of 24 April 2014)

Soco believes that the film misrepresents its activities in Block V and does not accurately portray the company’s track record to date of responsible operating.

Soco denies that their operations in the park are illegal and states that it is committed to abiding by international and national law.

Soco insists that will never seek to have operations in the mountain gorilla habitat, the Virunga Volcanoes or the Virunga equatorial rainforest.

Soco maintains that it did not break into the park and its employees were not formally present during the incident.

Soco states that the two individuals recorded – Julien and John – no longer work for Soco. It further denies any knowledge of the security contractor filmed making a payment and does not in any way condone his actions.

Soco insists that it is fully informed of all activities on the ground by its representatives and that its operations are monitored closely.

Soco insists that payments to rebels groups or “bribes” to park rangers have never been nor will ever be sanctioned by Soco, but that it cannot prevent contact attempts from rebels.

Soco states that none of its employees, consultants or security contractors have played a part in the contact with rebels or payments to them.

Soco operates under a strict Code of Business Conduct and Ethics and takes this Code extremely seriously. Any reported breach will always be investigated to the fullest extent possible.