

Ratanakiri Project

The Ratanakiri project consists of 14 Exploration licenses located in Ratanakiri and Stung Treng provinces. Thirteen of these licenses are wholly or in part covered by the Virachey National Park, created in 1993. The licenses were granted by the Cambodian Ministry of Industry, Mine and Energy (MIME) with the permission of the Ministry of Environment. Table 1 shows the percentage of each License covered by national park. The boundary used for these calculations is from the World Database on Protected Areas 2003 update (WDPA ID 68862).

Table 1. Indochine Licenses partially within the Virachey National Park

License ID Num	License Name	Area (km ²)	Subsidiary Company Holding License	% within National Park
1079	Kham Darang	200	Indochine Resources Ltd	100
1077	Stung Tapork	200	Indochine Resources Ltd	100
1082	Prek Lang	200	Indochine Resources Ltd	97
1084	Stung Khampha	200	Indochine Resources Ltd	81
1078	Viengkham	200	Indochine Resources Ltd	100
1080	Stung Tapork	200	Indochine Resources Ltd	39
1083	Koh Pang	200	Indochine Resources Ltd	41
1088	Batak	200	Indochine Resources Ltd	85
1087	Bor Kham	200	Indochine Resources Ltd	15
1086	Ka Chhok	200	Indochine Resources Ltd	100
1075	Boeung Nging Kang	200	Indochine Resources Ltd	73
1076	Pong Peay	200	Indochine Resources Ltd	20
525	Ou Smang	252	Ratanakiri Consultancy Company Pty Ltd	24
526	Preaek Kousieb	248	Ratanakiri Consultancy Company Pty Ltd	0

A written agreement, between Indochine Resources Limited and the Ministry of Environment outlines a list of requirements for conducting surveys within the national park. Cambodia seeks a balance between conservation and development and in considering exploitation, the ministry obtains binding guarantees that companies will respect the environment, minimise the social impact and not harm indigenous rights. The agreement is similar to that necessary for all exploration and mining under MIME guidelines, with the same periods and renewal process for exploration, the requirement for a feasibility study and for an environmental and social report prior to granting a mining license, using best practices to protect the environment.

In addition, accepted practices when working within the national park include:

- Written notification, prior to work programs, to:
 - Virachey National Park Office, Ban Lung
 - Ministry of Industry, Mines and Energy
 - Provincial Governor
 - District Governor
 - District Police
- All Survey crews are accompanied by a park ranger.