



DIVISIONS  
ENERGY  
GAS AND OIL  
GEOLOGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES  
MINED LAND RECLAMATION  
MINERAL MINING  
MINES  
ADMINISTRATION

## COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

### *Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy*

Washington Building, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
1100 Bank Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219-3638  
(804) 692-3200 FAX (804) 692-3237  
[www.dmme.virginia.gov](http://www.dmme.virginia.gov)

#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

November 21, 2016

Contact: Tarah Kesterson (276) 523-8146

Cell: (276)-356-3405

E-mail: [tarah.kesterson@dmme.virginia.gov](mailto:tarah.kesterson@dmme.virginia.gov)

## **Virginia Offshore Wind Development Authority Elects New Officers**

*~Joan Bondareff to Chair the Authority~*

**Richmond, Va.**– There are new officers for the Virginia Offshore Wind Development Authority (VOWDA). Elections were held at the authority’s November meeting. Former Vice-Chair Joan M. Bondareff was appointed as the new Chair and Deborah Miller was appointed as the new Vice Chair.

The Virginia Offshore Wind Development Authority (VOWDA) was established for the purposes of facilitating, coordinating, and supporting the development of the offshore wind energy industry, offshore wind energy projects and related supply chain opportunities.

Bondareff is a maritime law expert and former Chief Counsel of the U.S. Maritime Administration. She lives in Alexandria and currently is of counsel to Blank Rome, LLP. “I look forward to leading VOWDA and working with interested stakeholders,” said Bondareff. “The Commonwealth is a leader in offshore wind development and we want to continue on that path.”

###