

## **Jennifer Palestrant**

### **Chief Deputy, Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals & Energy**

In October 2019, Virginia's Governor Ralph Northam appointed Jennifer as Chief Deputy of the Department of Mines, Minerals & Energy, overseeing the development of offshore wind for the Commonwealth. Her other projects include the creation of unified energy portfolio for the State and workforce development and economic development in Virginia's southwest.



Previously, Jennifer served as Director of the SMART Center, a National Science Foundation Grant promoting maritime and offshore wind education nationwide at Tidewater Community College. She also served as Senior Vice President for Membership and Communications with the Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce. Jennifer has over 25 years of marketing and management experience. She earned a Master's in Business Administration from the Mason School of Business at the College of William and Mary and a Bachelor's of Arts from the College of Wooster in Ohio.