

Rhys is the co-founder of Climate Solutions, a 10 year old non-profit group accelerating practical, profitable solutions to global warming. Denis Hayes, founder of Earth Day, says, "Climate Solutions just might be the finest regional climate group in the world."

Rhys pioneered Climate Solutions' innovative clean energy programs and partnerships, renowned for bridging the political and cultural divides which have constrained environmental progress in America. These programs have been instrumental in positioning clean energy at the top of the economic development agenda for leading elected officials throughout the Pacific Northwest.

For example, Rhys developed Climate Solutions' Harvesting Clean Energy program to bridge the divide between clean energy advocates and agriculture and rural communities. This program brings together a remarkable array of groups across the ideological spectrum to advance a simple shared goal: rural economic development through clean energy in the Northwest. Rhys has since helped replicate this groundbreaking model in other regions of the country.

Rhys also led Climate Solutions' program to engage the Northwest high-tech community in building a world- class "clean tech" industry. He coordinated the Poised for Profit partnership of top economic development, technology and energy agencies to design strategies to create thousands of clean energy jobs in the region. He also created Business Leaders for Climate Solutions, a vehicle for executives to make the job creation and business case to policymakers for adopting a strong clean energy and climate policy framework.

Rhys received his Masters Degree in Environmental Studies in 1990 from The Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington.