

# The Deafening Silence

*By Tom Chisholm, Meteorologist*

That labor Unions that support workers in what remains of the manufacturing base in The United States have not addressed the global warming issue is, upon close inspection, stunning. With the trade deficit only recently narrowing slightly, because of lower gasoline and commodity prices, the new administration is faced with daunting choices to stabilize the economy, spur real growth and create meaningful work for the newly unemployed.

At the same time, financial asset deflation is occurring. Any policy that further taxes U.S. manufactured goods will not only make the country less competitive internationally, but will destroy more jobs. Cap and trade policies, will in fact do just that.

And so, it must be asked, where are the unions? Why are they not asking serious questions regarding the presumption of manmade global warming. In fact it is the rank and file who should be led to ask one of two questions, both of which may, in fact, not be mutually exclusive.

Why have the labor unions not lobbied on behalf of its workers for a full public discussion of climate change. Secondly, why has the Democratic Party abandoned its base, the poor, minorities and workers in manufacturing, all of whom will be adversely impacted by punitive carbon policy.

Is it only the California political and technology elites that carry sway in the "change" rhetoric of the Obama Administration? Undoubtedly, the administration and congress will deflect the debate, stating that newly created green jobs will replace those idled manufacturing jobs. Still, that policy offers no solution for workers whose circumstances exempt them for not having the skill sets required for such work.

Cap and trade policy will also likely make the U.S. even less competitive with the rest of the world. Higher wages in an industry that relevance has not passed legitimate supply and demand accountability, may very well be the next bubble in a series that went from high tech to y2k to dot com to housing and now, hysterics over an invisible, innocuous gas.